

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF JOINT CIA-DIA STUDY
OF SOVIET CIVIL DEFENSE

SHELTER: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] we believe that the Soviets are building some shelters, probably blast resistant facilities, for workers who will remain in evacuated areas. We cannot now judge how extensive this program is.

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There are also about 90 million potential fallout shelter spaces in Soviet basements. The basement space offers protection from fallout radiation that is adequate according to US standards, but would provide little or no blast protection.

FEEDING EVACUEES: The Soviets would have adequate food resources to sustain evacuees in most areas over a short term (1-2 weeks), and probably for a longer period (3 months-1 year), depending on damage to transportation systems. The food distribution system, however, would be severely strained. Excessive queuing and crowding would occur as urban residents sought to procure the rations they are required to bring for the initial 2-3 days of evacuation. Lack of cupboard space and refrigeration facilities in Soviet homes precludes maintenance of a sizeable food stock from which emergency rations could be drawn. For a period of about two weeks following a nuclear attack, radioactive fallout would complicate deliveries of food from reserves.

Food supplies generally available in the area of four of the five cities examined would be sufficient to sustain evacuees for about a year. In areas such as Tashkent, however, where agriculture is devoted largely to cotton production or other industrial crops, there is no evidence of substantial stockpiles of grain that would be needed for a prolonged evacuation.

COSTING: Data on Soviet civil defense expenditures are fragmentary but reflect what the Soviets are probably spending for civil defense training, publications, communications systems, and warehousing.

CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING: A key part of the Soviet civil defense effort is training. Selected personnel are groomed for roles as commanders, specialists, and instructors in the civil defense system. The general population is instructed in weapons effects, and in evacuation, post nuclear attack recovery, and shelter construction techniques. The Soviets have conducted six nationwide compulsory training programs since 1955. The programs have ranged from 15 to 22 hours in length. The current program was initiated in January 1967 and appears to be an improvement over the others. There is a greater emphasis on supplementing civil defense lectures with practical exercises, and the training has been extended into the school system.

URBAN AREA EVACUATION POSSIBILITIES: There is a substantial body of information concerning Soviet evacuation planning and limited drills, which has been studied in detail and used as a partial basis for analyzing the evacuation possibilities for ten Soviet cities selected for this study. Hypothetical evacuation plans for the ten cities have been prepared by DIA/CIA utilizing all feasible routes and modes of transport, and relocating the urban populations to contiguous suburban and rural areas.